(ii) Three cases of corruption have so far been considered by the present Chief Justice of India.

(iii) Of the three cases, two cases are pending for enquiry and the third case has been referred to the Government.

(f) Government is taking steps to set up a National Judicial Council to deal with complaints against Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts.

Grant of mining leases

233. SHRI JAI PARKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of steel companies have entered into MoUs with State Governments for mineral explorations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of companies which have been granted mining leases; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure security of raw material supplies like iron-ore, to the newly established steel companies, to start production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Details on Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) signed by steel companies with State Governments for mineral exploration are not centrally maintained. However, as per the information available in the Ministry of Mines, the State Governments of Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh have signed MoUs with steel companies to set up steel plants in the respective States and such companies have applied to the respective State Government for grant of mineral concessions.

(c) The details of prior approval conveyed by Ministry of Mines to the State Governments in the last ten years for grant of mining leases are available on the website of Ministry of Mines i.e. www.mines.nic.in.

(d) The Government has enunciated a National Mineral Policy which encourages user industry to develop long term linkages with the mineral producing units, including equity participation in mining companies.

Lease of forest land for mining

234. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has leased the forest land for mining activities in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the total areas of forest land so leased out for mining, alongwith the terms and conditions, State-wise;

(c) whether mining agencies are following the terms and conditions satisfactorily; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) State as owners of minerals grant mining leases. Lessees obtain clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Forest Conservation Rules, 1981 in case of forest land. The State-wise break up of the total area of forest land diverted for mining for which forest diversion approval has been given by MoEF during the period 25.10.1980 to 30.9.2008 is shown in the Statement (*See* below). The approvals accorded by the MoEF are subject to certain conditions to mitigate the local adverse impact on ecology and environment and include compensatory afforestation, safety zone and other protective measures, which are site specific and region specific and compliance is compulsory.

Statement

Details of total area of forest land leased out for mining

S. No.	Name of State	Total land diverted (in Ha.)	S. No.	Name of State	Forest Area (in Ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18,178.550	15.	Maharashtra	3,638.294
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	59.625	16.	Manipur	Nil
3.	Assam	152.201	17.	Meghalaya	Nil
4.	Bihar	418.174	18.	Mizoram	Nil
5.	Chhattisgarh	21,421.422	19.	Nagaland	Nil
6.	Goa	1,453.646	20.	Orissa	16,795.252
7.	Gujarat	9,866.408	21.	Punjab	0.002
8.	Haryana	Nil	22.	Rajasthan	5,188.031
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1,652.348	23.	Sikkim	0.046
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	24.	Tamil Nadu	359.216
11.	Jharkahnd	9,501.255	25.	Tripura	8.278
12.	Karnataka	11,046.214	26.	Uttar Pradesh	2,006.440
13.	Kerala	29.196	27.	Uttarakhand	283.166
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11,970.084	28.	West Bengal	276.910

Iron ore deposits in Chiria Mines

235. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chiria Mines located in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand are endowed with huge iron ore reserves;